

Remarks

This Paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2007 with a shortened statutory response period ending on November 23, 2007. This Paper is filed within the shortened statutory response period. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 04-1512, with reference to Attorney Docket No. 06834-0375.

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. New claims 14-17 have been added.

Claims 1-13 were objected to because claim 1 lacked the abbreviation "SCA" for the term "selectivity control agents." Present claim 1 includes the term "SCA" as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 8-13 were objected to for an inconsistency between the term "method" in the claim 7 preamble and the term "process" in claims 8-13. Present claim 7 recites "a polymerization method" and establishes proper antecedence for dependent claims 8-13. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the objects be withdrawn.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,432,244 to Rebhan (*Rebhan*). Applicant respectfully traverses and disagrees with this rejection for the reasons set forth below.


Rebhan fails to disclose or suggest a catalyst composition which includes a mixed SCA with 98.5-99.9 mole percent aromatic carboxylic acid ester (ester) and 1.5-0.1 mole percent of alkoxysilane (silane) as recited in the present claims. In other words, the present claims recite a mixed SCA with an ester-to-silane ratio of 65.7-999:1. *Rebhan*, on the other hand, discloses a catalyst system with an SCA mixture, *Rebhan's* SCA mixture having an ester-to-silane ratio of 1.5-50:1. *Rebhan*, col. 2 lines 45-48. The claimed ester-to-silane range of 65.7-999:1 is outside the ester-to-silane range of 1.5-50:1 disclosed in *Rebhan*. Consequently, *Rebhan* fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter of the present claims.

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Response to Office Action dated August 23, 2007

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application in view of this Response, to withdraw the rejections, and to forward the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ted J. Barthel', written over a horizontal line.

Dated: November 16, 2007

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